RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Two of them, I think, are in service.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know the names of these two persons who are in service now?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know what is the principle observed?

PRESIDENT: The question is whether they adopted any principle in the appointment of Sirkar Vakils and the answer is, yes.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The principle generally is efficiency, qualification, standing at the Bar and sometimes communal considerations also.

Attingal Municipal Council.

198. ***MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil II*): Will the Government be pleased to state how long the President of the Attingal Municipal Council has been an official?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) Since 22-3-1927.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know the reason why an official President has been appointed?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Because Government consider that the Municipal Council is not yet in a fit condition to have a non-official President.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know whether a non-official President has been appointed before that?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, and Government found that the working of the Municipal Council was not satisfactory under a non-official President and so they had to appoint an official President.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know from the member whether things have not come to a normal stage now?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government think that things have not yet come to the normal stage.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): What is the date of the latest report received by Government in regard to the working of this Municipality?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The order on the latest report was issued on 24th April 1934.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is it the position of the member that the affairs of the Municipality do not improve under a non-official President?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Quite so.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know whether Government have considered the question as to why it does not show any improvement in spite of its existence from the year 1927?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have looked into the whole question and thought that, with the appointment of an official President, the affairs of the Council would improve. But the time has not yet come when the Municipality, in their opinion, could be entrusted to a non-official President.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know whether the affairs of the Municipality have improved on account of the fact that an official President is appointed?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Under the official President, it is certainly showing improvement.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know from the member how the Government were in a position to come to the conclusion that under a non-official President it will not show any sign of improvement?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is what the Government think. That is a matter of opinion. Government think that the time has not yet come when the Council could be entrusted to a non-official President.

PRESIDENT: The standard of administration has not yet reached that level of efficiency when it could safely be handed over to a non-official President.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): It has been answered by the Government member that, since 1927, it has been functioning under an official President. Are we to take it that, in spite of the official President, things have not improved?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have already stated that the Municipality has considerably improved under the official President. But Government think that even now it could not be safely entrusted to a non-official President.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know the nature of the lack of efficiency which necessitates an official President?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is a big volume of correspondence on that matter.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): May I know from the member whether the unsatisfactory working of the Municipality under the non-official President was due to the fact that he happened to be a non-official or of the personal short-comings of the individual?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government found that, under the non-official President, the Council did not function properly; and so an official was appointed President of the Council.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): My question, Sir, is whether the Government have got positive proof that the trouble was due to his being a non-official and not because of his personal short-comings.

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have enquired into the matter and have come to the conclusion that the affairs of the Municipality under a non-official President got into confusion and Government therefore thought that it would be better to have an official President.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Do the Government think that there is no non-official there who is fit to be President of the Municipality?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government think at present that it is not advisable to entrust the Municipality to a non-official President. As to whether there are competent non-official gentlemen in the locality, Government have not enquired about every one of the inhabitants of the locality: but they think that it would be safer to have an official President for some time to come.

PRESIDENT: I suppose Government will think of choosing a proper non-official when they decide upon a non-official President.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Is it because Government would be able to exercise more control over an official President than over a non-official President that Government continues the official President?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Certainly Government have got greater control over an official President than over a non-official President. But so far as the municipal administration is concerned, Government do not exercise any control, other than that laid down in the Regulation.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Are we to understand that, during these seven years, the official President has not been able to restore order?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): To some extent, Sir, things have improved. But they have not come to that stage of efficiency when we can safely hand over the Municipality to a non-official President.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the Government propose to dissolve the old Council and to order a new one?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Does not the work of the present officer suffer because he is the First Class Magistrate, Tahsildar and also President?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government do not think so.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I ask whether encouragement of local government is still the policy of Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

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